GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5686
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
DIRECT SALE FACILITY IN POWER SECTOR
VINAY KUMAR SORAKE

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the combined losses of SEBs average Rs.22,000 crores annually due to Low Plant Load Factor, Pilferage, farmer subsidy and politically constituted SE Boards;

(b) if so, whether the Centre has ever attempted to enforce fiscal discipline among the SEBs;

(c) whether the recent recommendations of Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Authority to permit power producers to sell directly to consumers;

(d) whether the Centre follows the GERA directives; and

(e) if so, whether Dabhol Power Company is likely to be permitted to sell power directly to consumers and to other interested parties?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRIMATI JAYAWANTI MEHTA)

(a) : The combined commercial losses of the State Electricity Boards during 2000- 2001 is estimated to be Rs.26013.05 crores.

(b) : The States are being persuaded to constitute State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC) and to give them the responsibility of determining tariffs and to provide subsidies where they would like to be less than the determined by the SERC for any category of consumers. SERCs of Orissa, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Gujarat, Karnataka, Rajasthan, Haryana and Delhi have already issued tariff orders.

(c) : Gujarat Electricity Regulatory Commission has not recommended sale of power directly for Generating companies to the consumers.

(d) : Does not arise.

(e) : According to Section 43 (A) (c) of the Electricity (Supply) Act, 1948, a generating company can sell power to any person with the consent of competent Government or Governments. The decision to allow Dabhol Power Company to sell power directly to consumers rests with the Government of Maharashtra, therefore.